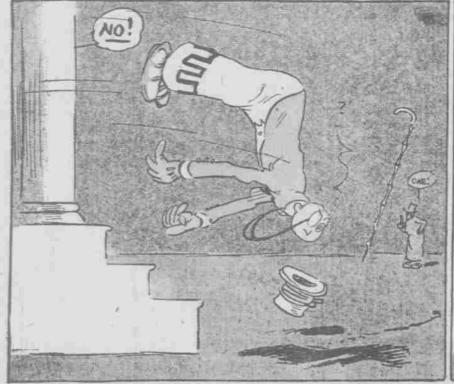


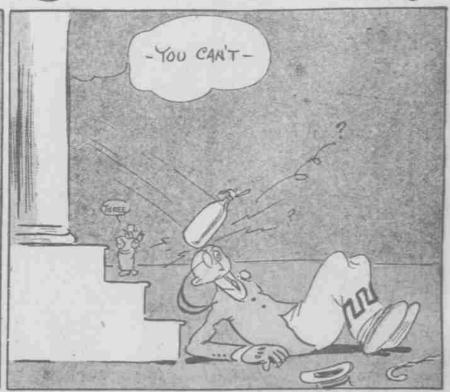
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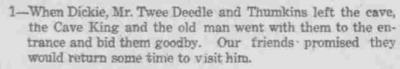






MONIE DE DE DILENS







2—Hardly had the three sat down in the shade of a large tree to talk over their adventures when two long arms reached out of the tree and caught Mr. Twee Deedle and Dickie.



3—Thumkins escaped, but Mr. Twee Deedle and Dickie were lifted into the tree, which closed up after them.



4—Thumkins began to cry as he thought of all that might happen to his two friends. "Why are you crying?" asked three white geese as they came up to Thumkins. "Perhaps we can help you," they said when he told them.



Thumkins hid in the bushes. Finally the witch of the tree came down for a bucket of water and the big goose swam up and pulled her nose until it stretched out eight inches. Of course this broke the enchantment, for most witches carry their gift for black magic in their noses, although this is not generally known.



So Thumkins and the geese ran back to the tree just in time to see it split in two and Dickie and Mr. Twee Deedle crawl out, none the worse for their experience. The witch held her nose and wept many tears, for she knew it would be some time before her magic would be restored. "Let's run away before she can hurt us," said Mr. Twee Deedle, as he, Dickie, Thumkins and the geese ran across the field.